

PROMINENT SUFFRAGE WORKERS

Men as Mere Men Couldn't Vote in 1814

Ballot Was Landowner's, and Bankers and Brokers Did the Parading.

One hundred years ago men began to agitate for manhood suffrage. They began to pamphlet, hold torch light processions, arrange mass meetings and demand in no uncertain tones their rights as free citizens of the United States. Some men had some rights, but all men did not and most men needed more because the industrial interests were not satisfied to be controlled by the landed interests.

We only have to imagine a group of male suffragists in 1814 to realize with what approval they were probably received. "We must have a government of the people, by the people, for the people," they declared. "Farming is not the sole sphere of the man; those who toil in the marts of trade shall be heard on the same terms as those who own the land."

Farmers Ridiculed Men Vote Seekers. The banking district gloried in the propaganda, and when it was pushed into the rural districts—it was the farmers who viewed with curiosity and derision the efforts of other men to have equal voice with them in affairs of state. Not until 1826 in New York were all white male citizens of the state 21 years of age and over considered fit to vote for all the elective officers of the state.

"We must have a government of the people, by the people, for the people," we declare. The men did not establish what they demanded in 1814—the government by the people—and it is our task to complete their work in 1914.

Did men like that condition of affairs in 1814? Not at all. They were most unhappy and restless—all except the landlords, who were supremely content, because they were able to dominate all politics.

The men who did business in New York City and its environs, for instance, one hundred years ago were not necessarily qualified voters. Indeed the farmer who drove into town for his Saturday trading was able to

look with contempt upon a mere banker on election day; that is, provided the farmer owned a little piece of land worth about \$500 while the banker had only a few thousand dollars worth of bonds. Land was the basis of the suffrage one hundred years ago in New York. Men as men did not count at the polls at all, says the New York Sun.

Any little up-State farmer with his \$500 worth of land could vote for a state senator and the governor—whereas the shib builder, the owner of a sea-going fleet, the useful inventor, the stock broker, the clerk, the club man who merely rented a suite of rooms, however elegant they might be, and the industrial worker, could not vote unless he owned land, too, and paid taxes.

Only Property Owners Had Full Suffrage. From South Carolina to Massachusetts the idea of a man's voting because he was a man was viewed with disapproval, when not with positive terror. Only that man who had his feet planted solidly on the soil was deemed fit to assume the more serious political privileges and burdens, and only about one man in five did have his feet thus planted on the soil in New York.

It is true there was a partial franchise. Men who were householders, for instance, and paid rent to the amount of 40s. a year for their homes could vote for an assemblyman, but no adult son who lived at home or a male lodger who merely boarded could exercise this right to vote. This limitation on the suffrage completely disfranchised one-fourth of the little country of New York men, while it gave the vast majority of men no control whatever over the state senate or over the chief executive of the state.

The men worked for suffrage one hundred years ago. The home asks representation now, just as business asks representation of land. Will business grant to the home what land granted to business?

MRS. CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT



International president and head of the Woman Suffrage movement in New York State.

The Women's Parliament

(Continued From Page Four.)

ship," said she, "when man, king of the world, will sit on a throne with woman queen of the home, which is the world, and together they shall rule forever, wisely and well."

"Suffrage is not the right of woman, it is the duty of woman. It is her own patriotism to safeguard her womanhood."

"Economic conditions have driven thousands of women out of the home and into occupations. Direct need has driven thousands of them into the most unwholesome and unprofitable condition in civilization."

For this reason inaction has now become unpardonable. It is even a GREATER patriotism, a greater duty, than giving your sons, your brothers, or your hearts to go to war, to go to the polls and cast a little ballot for the abolishment of child labor."

And the women who had come from distant parts to oppose this great world reform movement, this thing called Woman Suffrage, listened, and drank it all in. How ominous were the words spoken by Mrs. Jenkins. How true the words of the peace advocate, who spoke of the burden and supreme lack of woman—that of bringing in peace.

"The devastation of war rests on long suffering shoulders of women and war will cease when women say so. The pedigree of war runs through the dark ages into the kingdom of brutes," said this great man advocate of Votes for Women.

At last after most carefully carried out plans for bringing a resolution to endorse woman suffrage before this great body of representative women—here it is, this greatest question ever put before representatives of over a million women.

It is so simple. Only fifty-five words. Yet what a disgraceful thing if the women had passed it by—had refused to endorse it.

"WHEREAS, the question of political equality of men and women is today a vital problem under discussion throughout the civilized world, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs give the cause of political equality its moral support by recording its earnest belief in the principle of political equality regardless of sex."

It came with a rush, and happy are we now to say was greeted with joy, and passed with hardly a murmur of objection. A quick discussion of the subject began, but a rich clear-voiced southern woman explained: "Why waste time in discussing the merits of this question when from across the seas the hands of untold numbers of women are extended to us, and here in our own land over \$200,000,000 working girls and women are looking to us this day to help them, to protect them?"

Then the din arose, the like of which one never before beheld except at political conventions of un-emotional (?) men. Different delegations burst into song. Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, the crisp yell of Colorado ending with the word "citizens," Maryland—My Maryland—and above all the sweet refrain "Weep No More My Lady" from Our Old Kentucky Home, until nearly every woman in that vast throng found herself standing and singing the grand old doxology.

Who is there that can ever forget that day of days, June 13th? Who will ever again say that thirteen is unlucky, for, as if we had not had enough to turn our heads, it was on the afternoon of that same day, only a few hours later, that the Supreme Court of the state of Illinois sent us their final decision, which upheld the validity of the enfranchisement of the women of Illinois.

The women rose on mass and sang with gusto: "Gloria, Gloria, Hallelujah," while some of us over in a beautiful group of boxes sang, "Way Down Upon the Swannee River" with all our hearts.

That it is all over with this wonderful convention, what is it that stands out clearest, and above all else? Next to this great body having endorsed woman suffrage, came three other things we are pledged to do: To labor for a single standard of morality for men and women. To work unceasingly for civic betterment.

To not rest until child labor has been utterly abolished. Will we falter in the trust? Mrs. Wesley Martin Stoner, Washington, D. C.

MRS. HELEN RING ROBINSON



Mrs. Helen Ring Robinson, Colorado state senator, is one of the prominent women in various reform movements throughout the country.

Florida Equal Franchise spent about three hundred and fifty dollars in this legislative work. And while so many people believe in Suffrage, not many have reached the point where they give money to sustain the faith. From one league member we received fifty dollars. Aside from this the fund came in small donations, and by hard work.

The assistance of Tallahassee and Miami must not be overlooked in this legislative work. Miami through the efforts of Mrs. John Gifford sent about three hundred signatures of women asking for Suffrage, and also sent repeated telegrams to their representatives at Tallahassee. With the Housekeeper's Club that declared for Suffrage some time ago, and the more recently formed Suffrage League, Miami is quite a suffrage stronghold. At Tallahassee a league was formed, though it is not now active, and by appointment Miss Rankin made a Suffrage address in chapel at the Florida College for Women. Besides the crowded house for the public hearing before the House committee, the Tallahassee women came to us whenever we called them, and the day of the final vote in the Senate the Senate chamber was packed with the women of Tallahassee and the wives of the legislators. We only had to telephone or wire Miss Brevard, and presto, the Tallahassee support for Suffrage.

On March third, 1914, the League had a large mass meeting at the Duval Opera House at Jacksonville, hundreds being turned away for lack of seating capacity. Letters, telegrams, invitations, newspaper notices, and great personal effort goes into such an undertaking. Dr. Anna Howard Shaw was to have been the leading speaker of the evening, but a fall at the railway station in New Jersey caused a broken ankle. Dr. Shaw sent to us Miss Kate Gordon of New Orleans, president of the Southern States Suffrage Conference. Miss Gordon charmed the vast audience, the forceful and logical address being in an even and womanly manner, dignity and grace adding to the charm of the speaker. Several choice numbers of music and an address by Hon. J. W. Bryan, house member from the state of Washington, completed

the evening. The collection however, was fifty dollars short of the expense of the evening, necessitating further work to meet the bills.

The last big work of the league is too fresh in the memory of the public to be given more than a mere mention. It was the splendid Suffrage edition of "The State," issued July third. The edition was offered to the league by the artist and business manager, Mr. A. K. Taylor, and the editor, Mr. Bryan Mack, who is well known at Pensacola. The paper had a cover of Suffrage yellow, and being in magazine form on book paper, made a very handsome appearance. Congratulatory letters on the publication have been received by both the league and the paper from every state, and orders for the paper came from every quarter. An order for papers to the value of fifteen dollars came from Alabama, the president of the Alabama Suffrage Association writing that she desired to place a copy in the hands of every legislator.

The Florida Equal Franchise League has pressed steadily forward for Suffrage, with an eye single to that purpose. When the women of Florida have the vote they can then attend to the social reforms so much needed, but in the opinion of this league the fundamental is Suffrage for women. Equal citizenship and all equal rights for men and women.

Margaret of Scotland, 1067: "This prudent Queen directed all such things as it was fitting for her to regulate; the laws of the realm were administered by her council, by her care the influence of religion was extended, and the people rejoiced in the prosperity of their affairs."

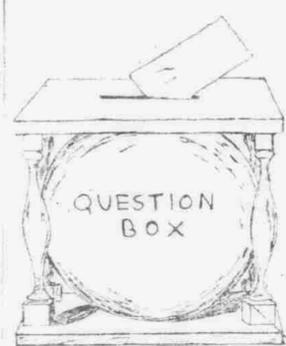
Hilda, Abbess of Whitby: "Her prudence was so great that not only indifferent persons, but even kings and princes, as occasion offered, asked and received her advice."

Florida Equal Franchise League, Jacksonville. Affiliated with the National Woman's Suffrage Association, and the Florida Equal Suffrage Association.

MRS. STANLEY McCORMICK



Treasurer National League of Women Suffrage Association.



Who gave the men their right to vote and when?

Can all men vote in the United States?

Yes, if they are over 21, and are native-born or naturalized. (In some states they must be able to read, also.)

Have all these men asked for the right to vote?

No, not one of them asked. The right is given to them by the law of the land.

When the laws were made, did all the men ask for the right to vote?

No, the representatives who made the laws were far-seeing enough to know that they could not find a possible one of the few citizens who were allowed to vote in colonial times—those men who could qualify as to religion, birth, and property so all these qualifications were swept away, and the majority of men received the vote.

Notice, it was for political reasons and not because the men asked for the vote.

The descendants of these men have voted ever since.

Who will give women their right to vote and when?

Can all women vote in the United States?

No, only those who live in the Equal Suffrage states.

Have all the women in the Equal States asked for the right to vote?

No, but the number of women who have asked to vote, is larger than the number of men who have ever asked for anything in the whole history of our country.

Women are citizens of this country "whether officially recognized or not."

Women should receive their right to vote for the same political reasons that men received theirs, and not because they ask.

What are the political reasons for giving the vote to women?

1. Women are people; no one would dare deny that Abraham Lincoln defined an ideal republic as a 'government of the people, by the people and for the people,' but ours is a government of the people by half the people.
2. We cannot make this an ideal republic if we leave half the people irresponsible and unprotected.
3. The country needs the working power of all its citizens.
4. Men and women need the chance to make good together and on equal terms.

Who can give women their right to vote?

Congress can do it by a national amendment, state legislatures can do it by state amendments.

When will they do it? Ask their constituents.

Make a resolution now to do your part in gaining this victory.

Rt. Rev. Bernard J. McQuaid, Late Roman Catholic Bishop, Rochester, N. Y.—It fills me with joy when I think of the MANY CHANGES that will be brought about when women have the right of suffrage. They will defy the politicians and vote as any Christian man should and would vote if he had the moral courage.

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Southern Suffrage Pioneers

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O yes, he also said "and too much money." Now whose money was it? Florida has as many tax paying women as she has tax paying men. Are not the women entitled to have a little of the money "wasted" in their cause? Are they not of more value than the dear little shrimp, the baby oysters, the minnows that Mr. Somebody has fished up in a creek? And yet this man seemed to be sincere. And because he is sincere, is the best reason for Suffrage. Women are people, they are one half of the Caucasian race; one half or more of the money-earning population; quite one half of the real business world; and quite one half of the tax payers in Florida. We were like the little girl at school, we "almost passed," we also did a great deal of "educating" in the Suffrage cause.

Home again to earn money to pay our debts. Hard work it was, the

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